

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A system using a computer system to provide computing as a product .  
to a user, where computing is supported through a dynamic computing environment,  
the system comprising:

an interface to present components of a dynamic computing environment to  
the user;

an interface to accept user inputs for selection of components of a dynamic  
computing environment;

an interface to accept user inputs specifying a configuration of the dynamic  
computing environment;

a framework for creating the dynamic computing environment from allocable  
resources; and

an interface for the user to compute on the dynamic computing environment.

2. The system of claim 1, wherein the components include hardware  
components wherein hardware components comprising:

computing devices or CPUs; and  
storage devices.

3. The system of claim 1, wherein the components include software  
components wherein software components comprising:

operating systems; and  
applications software.

4. The system of claim 1, wherein the components include network  
components wherein network components comprising:

network switches and ports in switches;  
network routers or gateways; and  
network security elements wherein network security elements include  
firewalls.

5. The system of claim 1, wherein the components include virtual  
components comprising:

software licenses;  
network connections with specified bandwidth; and  
IP addresses or subnets where a subnet is a range of IP Addresses.

6. The system of claim 1, wherein the system further comprising:

a configuration manager that can save user configurations as components in the database;

wherein the interface to present components can present configurations as components to the user.

7. The system of claim 6, wherein the system further comprising:  
an interface to accept user inputs for scheduling computing sessions;  
a scheduler to keep track of scheduled sessions and to reserve resources for sessions and to release the resources once a computing session is completed;

8. The system of claim 1, wherein all the interfaces are web-based user interfaces accessible through a web client device i.e., a browser.

9. A method to provide computing as a product the method comprising:  
the step of presenting components of a dynamic computing environment;  
the step of accepting user inputs for choices of components;  
the step of accepting user inputs for configuration of the dynamic computing environment from the chosen components;  
the step of creating a dynamic computing environment from the configuration in response to user inputs for configuration; and  
the step of present the dynamic computing environment to the user.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the components include hardware components wherein hardware components comprising:  
computing devices or CPUs; and  
storage devices.

11. The method of claim 9, wherein the components include software components wherein software components comprising:  
operating systems; and  
applications software.

12. The method of claim 9, wherein the components include network components wherein network components comprising:  
network switches and ports in switches;  
network routers or gateways; and  
network security elements wherein network security elements include firewalls.

13. The system of claim 9, wherein the components include virtual components comprising:

software licenses;  
network connections with specified bandwidth; and  
IP addresses or subnets where a subnet is a range of IP Addresses.

14. The system of claim 9, wherein components include user configurations.

15. The system of claim 14, wherein the method further comprising :  
the step of accepting user inputs for scheduling computing sessions;  
the step of scheduling requested sessions and reserving resources for sessions;  
and  
the step of releasing the resources once a computing session is completed;

16. A system of using a computer system to provide computing as a resource to a user, wherein the system comprising:  
a framework for providing a dynamic computing environment using allocable resources; and  
wherein the dynamic computing environment is used for computing by the user.

17. The system of claim 16, wherein  
a first user computes on a first dynamic computing environment;  
a second user computes on a second dynamic computing environment; and  
the first and the second dynamic computing environment exist concurrently  
and share the allocable resources;

18. The system of claim 17, wherein the system further ensures that:  
the first user has secure access to the first dynamic computing environment;

the second user has secure access to the second dynamic computing environment;

the first user's computing has no impact on the second dynamic computing environment; and

the second user's computing has no impact on the first dynamic computing environment;

- 1                    19.    The system of claim 16, wherein the system further comprises a  
2 resource monitor that monitors the allocable resources to guarantee the Quality of Service  
3 requirements of the user.
- 1                    20.    The system of claim 19, wherein the system further comprises a usage  
2 meter that measures the usage of the components of the dynamic computing environment.
- 1                    21.    The system of claim 20, wherein the system further includes a billing  
2 subsystem to convert the usage measurements and the quality of service to a bill price for the  
3 user.
- 1                    22.    The system of claim 21, wherein the billing subsystem is a pay-per-use  
2 billing system.
- 1                    23.    The system of claim 21, wherein the billing subsystem is a periodic  
2 billing system.
- 1                    24.    The system of claim 21, wherein the billing subsystem is an  
2 installment billing system.
- 1                    25.    The system of claim 21, wherein the billing subsystem is a  
2 combination of one or more billing systems.
- 1                    31.    An apparatus for providing computing as a packaged product to a user,  
2 where the package is a dynamic computing environment on which the user computes, the  
3 apparatus configured to perform the following method:  
4                    accepting one or more user inputs for components of the dynamic computing  
5 environment and configuration of the same;  
6                    configuring the dynamic computing environment;  
7                    presenting the package as a product to the user;  
8                    billing the user for the product based on the price of the components.
- 1                    32.    The apparatus of claim 31, further configured to perform the steps:  
2                    accepting a schedule of one or more user computing sessions;  
3                    scheduling the sessions and reserving resources for the dynamic computing  
4 environments for those sessions; and  
5                    releasing the resources on session completion.